PSALMS 19-20

REVIEW…

- **Psalm** **17** – Prayer for Protection
  - David cried out to the Lord in prayer for HELP – ONLY the Lord could save him…
  - David had learned not to trust in himself – instead to be satisfied in the Lord!
- **Psalm** **18** – Victory of the King
  - From the moment David Samuel anointed – King Saul had sought to kill him…
  - But David put his TRUST in the LORD – and God kept him SAFE – then made him KING!

PSALM 19 – PSALM OF REVELATION

- **1st – GENERAL REVELATION… VS. 1-6**
  - 1st – Introduction… vs. 1
    - To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David!
      - CHIEF Musician – the one who plays [piel] the music – leads the congregation in worship!
      - PSALM of DAVID – a Psalm of WISDOM – how

the LORD reveals himself!

- 2nd – How… vs. 1
  - The heavens declare the glory of God - and the firmament shows His handiwork!
    - The HEAVENS [הַשָּׁמַיִם] – plural of [שָׁמֶה]
    - There are THREE heavens - FRIST heaven is the sky above us…
    - SECOND heaven is outer space - THIRD heaven - dwelling place of God - **II Corinthians 12:2**
    - DECLARE [piel] – to give an ACCOUNT – accurately reveal…
    - GLORY [כְּבוֹד] – the POWER and MAJESTY of the LORD!
    - The HEAVENS declare His GLORY – God is POWERFUL He is BIG!
    - Our visible universe is BIG - 93 BILLION light year across…
    - In a ROCKET – traveling at around 40 THOUSAND kilometers per hour
    - It takes THREE days to get to the MOON – 150 days to MARS…
    - 80 THOUSAND years to the nearest STAR – 750 MILLION years to the nearest GALAXY…
    - 225 TRILLION years to travel to the end of the visible UNIVERSE!
  - The FIRMAMENT [הָרָקִיעַ]
    - The word FIRMAMENT describes an OPEN space that supports - separates…
    - On day TWO God separated the waters on the earth – water above and water below…
    - He called it the FIRMAMENT – the space between the waters – heaven – **Genesis 1:6**
    - SHOWS [hiphil] – to announce – or expound upon…
    - HANDIWORK – the work the LORD can do with His hands!
    - In a universe with 200 BILLION galaxies – each with BILLIONS of stars…
    - Each of those stars with numerous planets [ours has eight]
    - Our little blue green spec in the cosmos is SPECIAL - UNIQUE – nothing else like it!
    - With a 23.5° tilt – allowing for 85% of the earth to be HABITABLE…
    - Perfectly placed - 149 million km from the sun – in the GOLDILOCKS zone [liquid water]
    - Everything about the earth is perfectly DESIGNED to sustain life!
  - CREATION…
    - It is no accident that both the HEAVENS and FIRMAMENT - take us back to **Genesis 1**
    - The IDEA is we KNOW there is a GOD – because of the CREATION…
    - Down to the building blocks of LIFE – DNA – which we call a CODE…
    - We see the DESIGN in our WORLD – SHOWING us there must be a DESIGNER…
    - We call it GENERAL revelation – the PROOF there is a God!
    - There are only TWO possibilities to the origin of life – ACCIDENT or DESIGN…
    - The EVIDENCE all around us – PROVES that we are NOT an ACCIDENT…
    - We are part of an intricate DESIGN – meaning there must be a DESIGNER!
    - When we look up at the stars at night – when we see a picturesque sunset…
    - In our heart we know – there is someone who CREATED this…
    - We know God is there – NO one can claim they are IGNORANT…
    - No one will be able to before God and have the EXCUSE they did NOT know!
    - **Romans 1:20** – "Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen - being understood by the things that are made [us] - even His eternal power and Godhead - so that [we] are without excuse."
- 3rd – When… vs. 2
  - Day unto day utters speech - and night unto night reveals knowledge!
  - UTTERS [hiphil] – to pour out – gush forth His WORD…
  - REVEAL [piel] – to declare and make know His KNOWLEDGE [יָדַע]
  - When does God REVEAL Himself to His creation – EVERY day and EVERY night…
  - It is a CONSTANT message God sends out to His CREATION!
- 4th – Where… vs. 3-4

- There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard…
- Their line has gone out through all the earth - and their words to the end of the world!
- No [אֵין] speech [dialect] or language where the VOICE of the LORD is NOT heard…
- In ALL [בְּכָל] the earth - to the END of the earth – His MESSAGE [word] has gone out!
- The MESSAGE that we are CREATED – we are NOT an accident…
- Is one that can be UNDERSTOOD in EVERY language – EVERY culture!
- Over 90% of the world believes in some kind of god – less than 10% are ATHEISTS…
- 84% of the world holds to some kind of RELIGION [2012 Pew research]
- 32% are Christian – 23% are Muslim – 15% are Hindu – 30% various!
- This is in SPITE of the effort of modern EDUCATION to wipe out the KNOWLEDGE of God…
- The intent of EVOLUTION – is to try and SILENCE the testimony of CREATION…
- But it only has a LIMITED effect – because the message from God is CONSTANT and CLEAR!

o 5th – Consistent… vs. 4-6

- In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun…
- Like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber - and rejoices like a strong man to run its race.
- Rising is from one end of heaven - and its circuit to the other end - nothing hidden from its heat!
- David uses the SUN – as an example of the CONSISTENCY of the MESSAGE…
- Just as the SUN bursts forth daily [like a groom or runner] racing across the sky [heavens]
- And NOTHING is able to escape the HEAT that comes from it…
- So also the MESSAGE that there is a GOD – reaches out across the world DAILY…
- And there is NO one – ANYWHERE – who the MESSAGE does not reach!
- But – CREATION does not REVEAL His NAME – or WHY He created us…
- For that we must look to the SPECIFIC revelation of God – the BIBLE!

- **2ND – SPECIFIC REVELATION… VS. 7-9**

o 1st - TWO questions…

- Why the WRITTEN word…
  - Why did God choose to use the WRITTEN word to reveal Himself to us…
  - If He told one person – they would die – and the KNOWLEDGE would be LOST…
  - By WRITING it down – EVERY generation can come to KNOW the LORD!
- Why the BIBLE…
  - There are MANY holy writings in the world – the Quran – Hindu Vedas…
  - How do we know which HOLY book is from GOD – and not written by MEN…
  - The KEY is GOD would have to do something to PROVE His book is written by HIM!
  - ONLY God is ETERNAL – meaning He is outside of TIME…
  - SINCE He is the only one who sees the end from the beginning – **Isaiah 46:10**
  - God uses prophecy to show us He and He alone – is our CREATOR…
  - Prophecy is how He validates the BIBLE – it is His thumbprint on the WORD!
  - **II Peter 1:21** – "For prophecy never came by the will of man - but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."

o 2nd – The Problem… vs. 7

- The law of the LORD is perfect…
  - LAW [תּוֹרַת] – the first FIVE books of the OT – the 613 commands of the LORD…
  - PERFECT – it is the standard of what it means to be GOOD!
  - **Romans 7:12** – "The law is holy - and the commandment holy and just and good."
  - How do we know WHAT God expects from us – He gives us His LAW!
- Converting the soul!
  - CONVERTING – to turn back – to REPENT…
  - When we KNOW the LAW – it causes [hiphil] us to REPENT!
  - The STANDARD of God is PERFECTION – never breaking ONE command – **Matthew 5:48**

- The problem is we CANNOT live up to His STANDARD – we are NOT good – **Romans 3:23**
- The LAW was never meant to make us HOLY – it was meant to show us we were NOT…
- When we KNOW the LAW – we see the PROBLEM – we are SINNERS!

o 3rd – The NAME… vs. 7
- The testimony of the LORD is sure - making wise the simple!
- TESTIMONY – from the root word WITNESS [עֵד]
- SURE [אָמַן] – to support or confirm – most often translated as BELIEVE…
- There is ONLY one was to KNOW someone – they have to tell us about themselves…
- The BIBLE is the TESTIMONY of God – how He REVEALS Himself to us!
- **Psalm 40:7** – "I come - in the scroll of the book it is written of me."
- How do we KNOW who GOD is – He gives us His TESTIMONY through His WORD…
- And when we BELIEVE in Him – the SIMPLE [open minded] become [hiphil] WISE!
- **Romans 10:13** – "Whoever calls on the NAME of the LORD shall be saved…"

o 4th – The INSTRUCTIONS… vs. 8
- The statutes of the LORD are right - rejoicing the heart!
- STATUTES [פִּקּוּדִים] – we might say the INSTRUCTIONS…
- How do we KNOW what we were created to do – listen to the INSTRUCTIONS…
- God tells us in the BIBLE what is RIGHT – so we KNOW the meaning of LIFE…
- And when we do what is RIGHT – is makes our heart REJOICE [piel]
- People waste their entire life searching for meaning – under the sun – **Ecclesiastes 2:11**
- Because were not CREATED to find meaning in ANYTHING in this life…
- We were CREATED to WORSHIP – **John 4:34** - and KNOW God – **John 17:3**
- And ONLY when we follow His INSTRUCTIONS – will we be satisfied!
- **John 4:14** – "Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst."

o 5th – The COMMANDS…vs. 8
- The commandment of the LORD is pure - enlightening the eyes!
- COMMAND [מִצְוָה] – the BIBLE tells us what the LORD wants us to do…
- PURE [בָּרָה] – to be CLEAN – or to be the thing that CLEANS…
- When we READ the COMMANDS of the LORD – it give LIGHT to our EYES…
- We get to SEE who we really are – because it TEST and CLEANS us!
- SEVENTH commandment – do not commit adultery – **Exodus 20:14**
- Jesus again elaborates on this COMMAND - **Matthew 5:27-32**
- Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her - has already committed adultery…
- Jesus takes the COMMAND and makes it a matter of the HEART!
- People tend to think they are GOOD – because of what they DO or do NOT do…
- But when we look at the COMMANDS in the BIBLE – we see it is about our HEART…
- And when we understand that – it opens our EYES – to our need for Jesus…
- ONLY when we come to Jesus – can we be CLEAN – FORGIVEN!
- **Galatians 3:24** – "The [commands were] our tutor to bring us to Christ…"

o 6th – The FEAR… vs. 9
- The fear of the LORD is clean - enduring forever!
- FEAR [יִרְאַת] – to be in FEAR of the LORD – is what makes us spiritually CLEAN [טָהוֹר]
- So that we can ENDURE forever in the presence of the LORD…
- **Psalm 111:10** – "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom…"
- Much of the world today mocks the LORD – because they do NOT know the Bible…
- They do not KNOW about the judgment seat – or the Lake of fire…
- They do not KNOW – there are only TWO kinds of people when it comes to God…
- Those who FEAR the LORD – who will ENDURE with Him for eternity…
- Those who do NOT - all that waits them is certain and terrifying judgment!

- **Hebrews 10:31** - "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God..."

o 7th – The JUDGMENT… vs. 9
- The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether!
- JUDGEMENT [מִשְׁפָּט] – The BIBLE tells us there are TWO kinds of JUDGEMENT!
- TRUTH – the GREAT white throne…
  - **Revelation 20:11-12** – "Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it..."
  - All will stand before the throne of God to be judged for the works of their lives…
  - There will be two sets of books opened - the BOOKS - and the Book of Life…
  - If our name is NOT found in the Book of Life – the BOOKS are opened...
  - We are JUDGED in TRUTH according to our works – written in the BOOKS…
  - Not to see if we will go to heaven or hell – but to show us why we will go to hell!
- RIGHTEOUS [צָדַק] – the BEMA seat…
  - **II Corinthians 5:10** – "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ…"
  - JUDGEMENT seat [βῆμα] – not speaking of the JUDGEMENT of sin...
  - But the AWARD seat – for the RIGHTEOUS who lived for Jesus!
  - The Olympic games began in Greece - a well known event in Biblical times…
  - Every TWO years the Isthmus games were held in the city of Corinth...
  - Those who competed had to train hard in order to win a laurel [leaf] CROWN!
  - Those who have had their eyes opened – see their need for Jesus – and are FORGIVEN…
  - Become RIGHTEOUS – and will one day be given a CROWN by Jesus – **James 1:12**
  - The CONTRAST could not be more profound…
  - JUDGED in TRUTH – and be eternally SEPARATED from God…
  - JUDGED in RIGHTEOUSNESS – and be rewarded with eternity WITH God!
  - **Matthew 25:23** – "Well done - good and faithful servant… Enter into the joy of your lord."

- **3RD – THE WORD OF THE LORD… VS. 10-14**

o 1st – DESIRE for the WORD… vs. 10
- More to be desired are they than gold – Yea - than much fine gold!
  - As a RESULT [niphal] of the TWO judgements – we are to DESIRE the WORD…
  - More than GOLD [24k] – because while MONEY can buy anything in this world…
  - MONEY – even if we had ALL of it - cannot buy our way into heaven!
  - **Mark 8:36** – "What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul!"
- Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb!
  - HONEY – even the sweetest honey right out of the honeycomb…
  - Because the best FOOD – will only satisfy us for a MOMENT – then we are hungry again!
  - NOTHING in this world is worth risking the JUDGEMENT of the Lord…
  - No amount of MONEY – no momentary PLEASURE – can compare with HEAVEN…
  - We KNOW that – because we have the REVELATION of God in His WORD!

o 2nd – WARNING of the WORD… vs. 11
- Moreover by them Your servant is warned - and in keeping them there is great reward!
- As a RESULT [niphal] of the WORD – we [servant] are WARNED…
- There is a CONSEQUENCE for rejecting the Bible – and a REWARD for obeying it!
- When the RICH man was in torment in HELL – he asked Abraham…
- Send back Lazarus to warn his brothers – so they would not end up in HELL…
- But Abraham told the RICH man – they have the BIBLE [Moses and prophets] – **Luke 16:31**
- If they would not listen to the BIBLE – even if Lazarus came back – they would not listen…
- Jesus did resurrected Lazarus – but they tried to kill him – because of Jesus – **John 12:10**
- The ONLY warning the LORD gives to us is His WORD…
- Because NOTHING else works to convict the hearts of men – that they need Jesus…
- Our WORDS will not work – only the WORD has the POWER to CONVICT!

- **Colossians 1:28** – "Him we preach - WARNING every man and teaching every man in all wisdom - that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus."

- 3rd – PURPOSE of the WORD… vs. 12-13
  - Who can understand his errors. Cleanse me from secret faults.
  - Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins - let them not have dominion over me.
  - Then I shall be blameless - and I shall be innocent of great transgression!
  - Through the POWER of the WORD we:
  - UNDERSTAND why we have ERRORS [שְׁגָגָה] – sins done in IGNORANCE
  - We can be CLEANSED [בָּרָה] from our SECRET faults [סָתַר] – sins done in SECRET
  - KEPT from PRESUMPTUOUS [זֵד] sin – PROUD and ARROGANT sin!
  - There is a PROGRESSION here – we are all have ERRORS because of Adam – **Romans 5:12**
  - But we CHOSE to give in to sin – at FIRST secretly…
  - But over time we can HARDEN – and become PROUD of our sin…
  - But through the WORD – our hope is we might not [jussive] let SIN have dominion over us…
  - Instead we will be BLAMELESS [complete] – FORGIVEN [innocent] of all transgression!
  - **Psalm 119:11** – "Your word I have hidden in my heart - that I might not sin against You."
- 4th – REDEMPTION through the WORD… vs. 14
  - Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight…
  - O LORD - my strength and my Redeemer!
  - David CONCLUDES by asking for the WORDS of his mouth – MEDITATION of his heart…
  - Be acceptable to the LORD – who is his STRENGTH and REDEEMER…
  - REDEEMER [גָּאַל] – the KINSMAN – who could buy back that which was LOST [Boaz]
  - It is NOT our WORDS that can REDEEM us from our SIN…
  - It is the WORD of the LORD – the BIBLE – that gives us the message of REDEMPTION…
  - It is the LOVE letter between God – and His people…
  - Telling us WHO He is – WHAT He did – and HOW we can know our CREATOR!

Psalm 20 – Psalm of Salvation

- **1st – Prayer for the KING… vs. 1-4**
  - 1st – Introduction… vs. 1
    - To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David!
    - CHIEF Musician – the one who plays [piel] the music – leads the congregation in worship!
    - PSALM of DAVID – a Psalm of PETITION – for the LORD to bring SALVATION!
    - This is THOUGHT to be a PRAYER from Israel for King David – as he goes into BATTLE!
  - 2nd – HELP from the LORD… vs. 1-2
    - May the LORD answer YOU in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob defend YOU!
    - May He send YOU help from the sanctuary - and strengthen YOU out of Zion!
    - YOU – is singular throughout the Psalm – referring to KING David
    - The PEOPLE are PRAYING for the LORD to answer [עָנָה] the KING on the day of TROUBLE…
    - Because when the LORD answers – the God of Jacob will DEFEND [piel]
    - He SENDS help from the SANCTUARY [קֹדֶשׁ] – strength from ZION [Jerusalem]!
    - When the David faced the Philistines – he INQUIRED of the LORD – **I Chronicles 14:10**
    - Presumably using the Urim and Thummim – with yes and no questions…
    - And God told him WHEN and HOW to attack his enemy!
    - Often the reason why we FAIL – is because we do NOT ask the LORD…
    - The KEY to victory – is always to FIRST ask the LORD – so He can direct us…
    - Then we will find HELP from the HOLY place – the Lord will fight for us!

- **Hebrews 4:16** – "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

o 3rd – HEART for the LORD… vs. 3-4
- May He remember all YOUR offerings!
  - OFFERINGS [מִנְחָה] – GRAIN offering – used to give THANKS to the Lord – **Leviticus 2:1**
  - We tend to forget to be thankful for all God has given to us...
  - We tend to think about all we do NOT have we think we still NEED…
  - A NEED God would provide - if we do NOT have it – we do NOT need it - **Luke 12:31**
  - God calls us to be thankful for all things - for all God has done for us - every day…
  - Looking at what He has giving us - not what we think we still need!
  - **I Thessalonians 5:18** - "In everything give thanks – for this is the will of God..."
- Burnt SACRIFICE [עֹלָה] – BURNT offering – freewill offering of dedication to God - **Leviticus 1:3**
  - No one was required to offer the burnt offering...
  - God is a gentleman - He will not force us to do anything we do NOT want to...
  - God does not make anyone go to heaven - He just provides the way...
  - God does not make us surrender our lives to Him - we have to choose to give it...
  - But only when we are willing to let our life go – do we truly find life in Jesus!
  - **John 12:24-25** – "I say to you - unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies - it remains alone. But if it dies - it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it - and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life."
- May He grant YOU according to your hearts desire - and fulfill all YOUR purpose!
  - When we are THANKFUL for what the LORD has given…
  - And we have DEDICATED our lives to the LORD…
  - God will GIVE us whatever we ASK for – so we can FULFILL [piel] our purpose!
  - **John 15:7** – "If you abide in Me - and My words abide in you - you will ask what you desire and it shall be done for you."
  - If we are connected to Jesus – we ask for those things that God has a desire to do...
  - We are spending time with God – and therefore know what God wants…
  - Since the desire comes from God – we can be certain He will make it happen!
  - **Psalm 37:4** – "Delight yourself in the LORD, He will give you the desires of your heart."

- **2ND – RESULT OF PRAYER… VS. 5-9**

o 1st – REJOICE… vs. 5
- WE will rejoice in your salvation - and in the name of our God WE will set up OUR banners!
- May the LORD fulfill all your petitions.
- WE – refers to the people who have been PRAYING for the KING…
- Because the KING sought HELP from the LORD – and had a HEART for the LORD…
- REJOICE [piel cohortative] – they were REALLY excited in the SALVATION that came from God…
- SALVATION [יְשׁוּעָה] – when we PRAY for our LEADERS – we see JESUS!
- **I Timothy 2:1-2** – "Therefore I exhort first of all that… prayers… be made… for kings and all who are in authority."
- People tend to be critical of their governments – looking for the flaws…
- And to be honest since governments are full of people – it is easy to find the flaws…
- Yet rather than attack the men God has put into power – we should pray for them…
- Being critical of them changes nothing – praying for them can change everything!
- **Proverbs 29:2** - "When the righteous are in authority - the people rejoice…"

o 2nd – REMEMBER… vs. 6-7
- Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed.
- He will answer him from His holy heaven with the saving strength of His right hand.

- Some trust in chariots - some in horses - but WE will remember the name of the LORD our God!
- I – David now answers the PEOPLE who are PRAYING for him…
- David KNEW the LORD saves – and would ANSWER [עָנָה] from His holy HEAVEN…
- Because while some TRUST in chariots – we REMEMBER the name of the LORD!
- God gave Solomon immense wisdom…
- He wrote over 3000 proverbs – many of them recorded in the book of Proverbs…
- Yet in all his wisdom – he made some poor choices – 40 THOUSAND horses – **I Kings 4:26**
- The King was not to add horses – **Deuteronomy 17:16**
- The concern was he would trust in his military might rather than the Lord…
- It seemed a small compromise for the King - it was his first but NOT his last...
- Solomon would end up walking away from the Lord – because of compromise!
- The decision to walk away from the LORD – is not one made in a day…
- It is the culmination of life that looks to somewhere ELSE for the answers…
- We need to constantly be on guard – not putting our trust in this life…
- Because we do not just wake up one day and decide to go and sin...
- We are slowly pulled away from the Lord – by the little choices we make!

o 3rd – STAND… vs. 8-9

- They have bowed down and fallen - but WE have risen and stand upright.
- Save LORD! May the King answer us when WE call!
- Anyone who puts their TRUST in this world – will FALL…
- But those who put their TRUST in the LORD – will STAND…
- **Ephesians 6:13** – "Therefore take up the whole armor of God - that you may be able to withstand in the evil day - and having done all - to stand."
- Note – we do NOT fight the battle – we just STAND…
- When we TRUST the LORD – He is the one who SAVES us…
- He is the KING who will answer when WE call!